

News Release

U of M Crookston Senior Dan Pazdernik receives Soil and Water Conservation Society Award

By Dan Svedarsky, Elizabeth Tollefson on Monday, March 5, 2007

CROOKSTON, Minn. (March 6, 2007) – Water resource student at the University of



Dan Svedarsky, head of Natural Resources Department; Dan Pazdernik; and Charles Habstritt, associate professor in agronomy

Minnesota, Crookston (UMC), Daniel Pazdernik, Waubun, Minn., was recently selected to receive the 2006 Scholarship Award from the Minnesota Chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The announcement was made by Chapter Awards Chair Greg Larson. Candidates are judged on their integrity, skills gained through training or experience, interest in natural resource related fields, grade point average and their expressed commitment to the field of resource management.

A senior, double-majoring in water resource management and agronomy, Pazdernik is “an excellent role model of a well-rounded conservation student,” according to U of M Crookston, Professor Dan Svedarsky, Ph.D., and head of the Natural Resources Department. “He is the fifth UMC student in the last six years to receive the \$ 500 award from the Soil and Water Conservation Society, and it is wonderful recognition for Dan and UMC.”

Accolades for Pazdernik were echoed by Agronomy Professor Chuck Habstritt, “In the fall semester of 2006, Dan joined my crops team and his team placed first overall in the national contests in Chicago and Kansas City. Their competition was teams from major land grants campuses across the country and their performance was the best ever for a UMC team!”

Pazdernik, always near the top his classes, has a 3.9 GPA. Along with his academic skills, he gained practical experience growing up on the family farm. Pazdernik also finds time at UMC to be active in the Delta Theta Sigma Fraternity and participates regularly in their service activities.

In 2005, Pazdernik was accepted to the Student Career Employment Program (SCEP) with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). As part of his work assignment that summer, he was a field assistant to Tyler Janke, (a graduate student and former award winner) who was conducting a field study at the Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge east of Crookston. Pazdernik became quite adept at identifying aquatic plants, especially sedges, one of the most challenging groups of plants. In the summer of 2004, he worked as a plant pathology assistant at the Northwest Research and Outreach Center and was an outstanding employee in that capacity as well.

Pazdernik joins former UMC winners of this award; Jen Tepovich '06, Daniel Weber '03, Cheryl Isder '04, and Tyler Janke '04. Janke recently accepted a position as a wetlands specialist with The Nature Conservancy in Nebraska and the rest work for the NRCS.

To learn more about the natural resource program at UMC, please visit www.umcrookston.edu/academics or call Judy Baatz at 218-281-8128 (baatz@umn.edu).

The University of Minnesota, Crookston (UMC) delivers more than 25 applied-science undergraduate degree programs and 50 concentrations, including online degrees, in agriculture; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; math, science and technology; and natural resources. UMC is dedicated to helping students and the region aim higher, reach further and dream bigger dreams. To learn more, visit www.UMCrookston.edu.

News Categories

[Awards and Recognition](#)

[Department - Agriculture and Natural Resources](#)

Tweet

Like 0

Share

News Home
News Archives



Small Campus. Big Degree..

- Employment

Events Calendar

Academic Calendar

Library

Directories

Maps, Directions & Parking

Quick Facts

Bookstore

- Faculty & Staff

Email & Calendar

Contact Webmaster

System Website

Home

2900 University Ave., Crookston, MN 56716
800-862-6466 | 218-281-6510 | umcinfo@umn.edu
© 2021 Regents of the University of Minnesota. All rights reserved.
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
[Privacy Statement](#)